

NO EXISTE

STREET CHILDREN - A FOCUS ON DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Abuse of Children's Rights

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STREET CHILDREN - A FOCUS ON DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

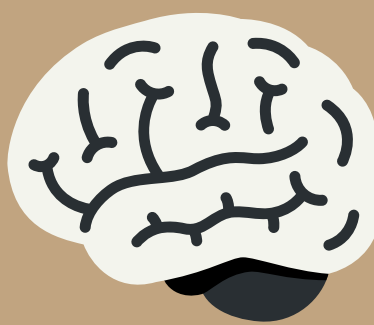


Background

Street children are, more often than not, ignored and resigned to fate.

Our group’s resolve to thoroughly understand the issue of street children in the Dominican Republic is consummated by profound personal experiences that are intricately intertwined in this problem

150 Million kids in the streets



Purpose

This study attempts to assess the current challenges associated with street children in the Dominican Republic, the working plans that are already addressing this challenge, and the areas needed for intervention.



WHO IS A STREET CHILD

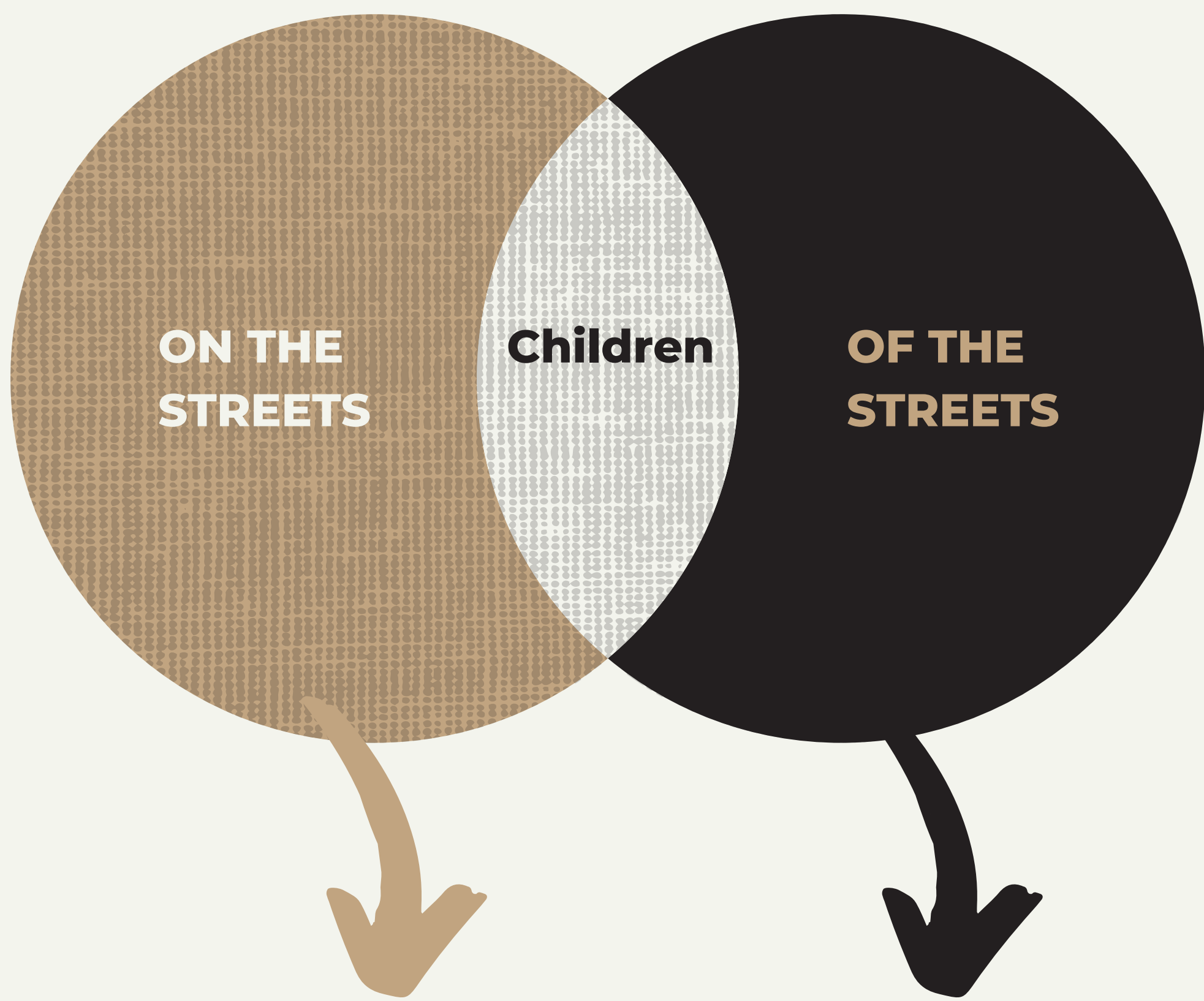
“A street child is any girl or boy who has not reached adulthood, for whom the street (in the broadest sense of the word, including unoccupied dwellings, wasteland, etc.) has become her or his habitual abode and/or sources of livelihood, and who is inadequately protected, supervised or directed by responsible adults” (Inter-NGO, 1985).



Problem Landscape

This study attempts to assess the current challenges associated with street children in the Dominican Republic, the working plans that are already addressing this challenge, and the areas needed for intervention.

Two kinds of Children on the Streets



These are children who go out to work on the street in order to earn a living and return home to aid their families.

These are children who perpetually live and survive on the streets.

Family Dynamic and Parenting

67% of households use physical and psychological punishment to discipline their children. This approach speaks highly to the lack of respect for children's rights in the country.

Culture of Commercial Sexual Exploitation

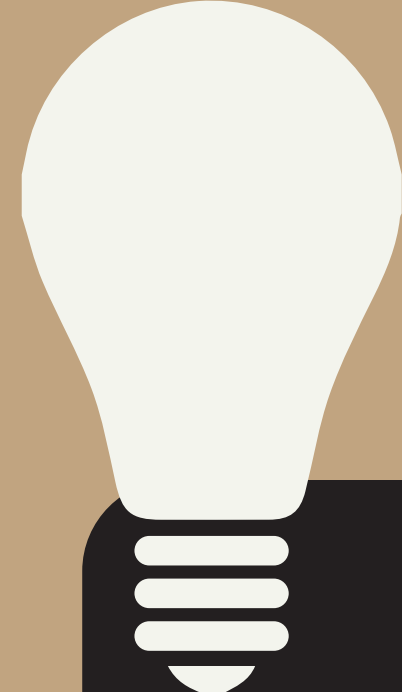
Young male and female children alike are sexually exploited commercially in the Dominican Republic.

History of commercial sexual exploitation

Young male and female children alike are sexually exploited commercially in the Dominican Republic.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS

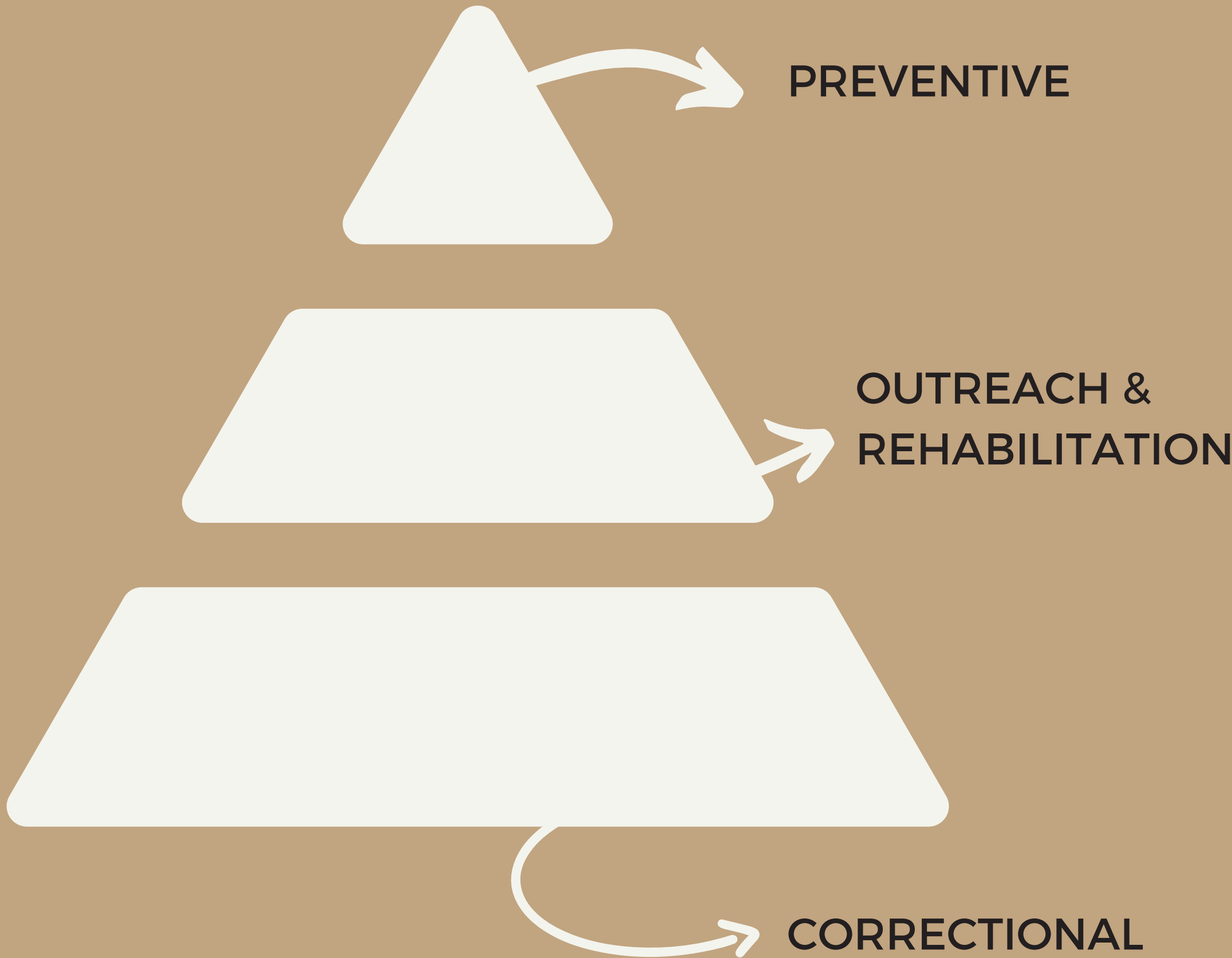
- Widespread Ignorance and Stigma
- Cycle of Violence
- Police Brutality



Solution Landscape



LOCAL SOLUTION MODEL



PREVENTIVE

This model targets potential Street Children and seeks to address the causes that influence children living on the streets.



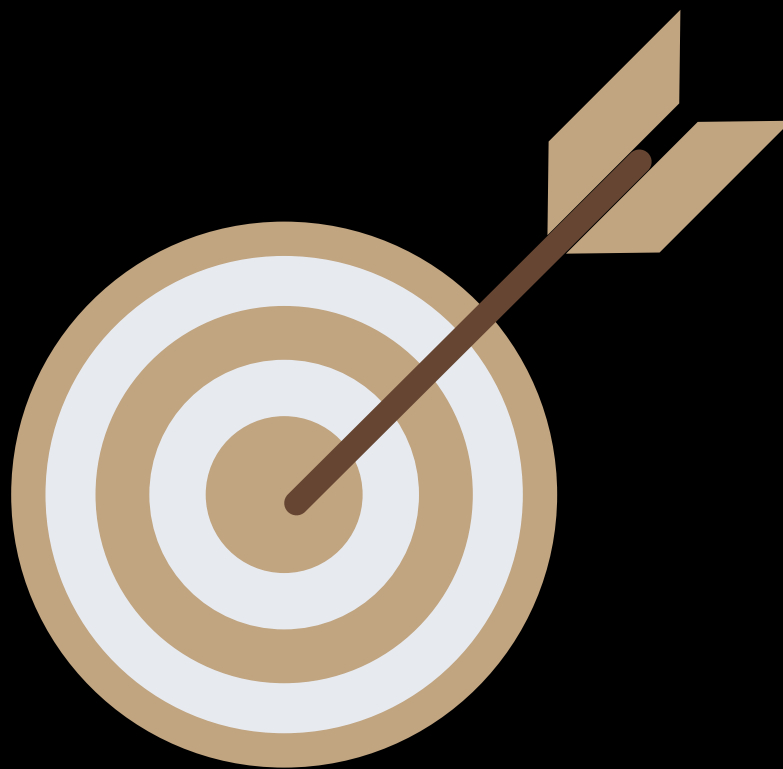
OUTREACH & REHABILITATION

This model approach work with children through the challenges they face and help reintegrate them back into society, through equipping with educational skills and self-efficacy.



CORRECTIONAL

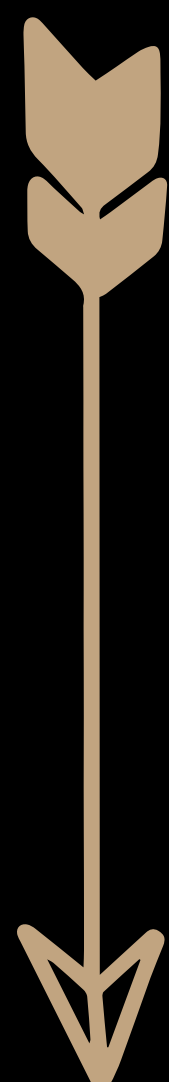
This models approach is used in the protection of the public against Street Children, who are seen as a nuisance and threat to society.



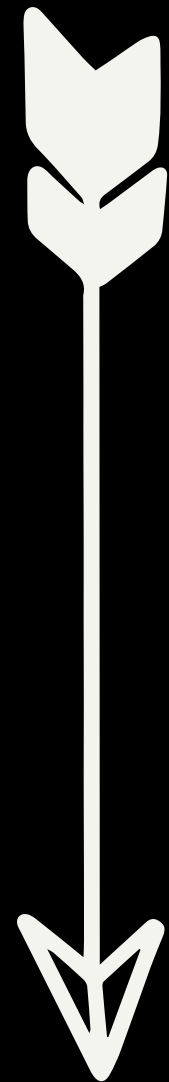
GAPS and LEVERS of change

What opportunities aexist?

GAPS



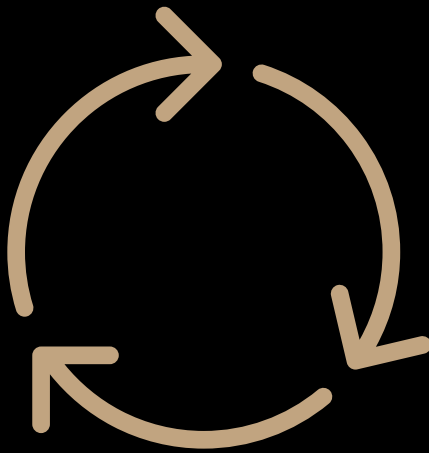
LEVERS



FAMILY

Lack of capacity and education about proper parenting.

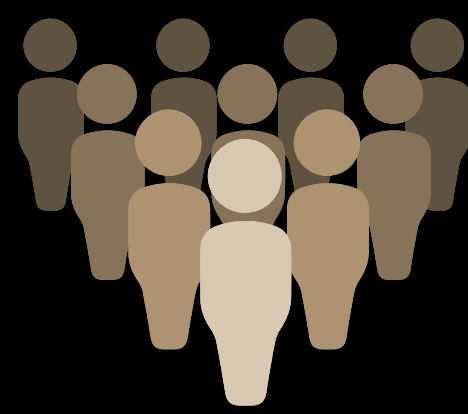
Institutionalized programs that educate parents about proper parenting and child welfare.



ORGANIZATION

Fragmented impact as a result of the absence of cross sectoral collaboration amongst organizations and communities.

Improved close collaboration and communication between organizations to inform specialized education and widespread implementation.



COMMUNITY

Dominican Public School system; being ranked the lowest amongst Spanish-Speaking countries, children are deprived of having a valuable education.

Limited opportunities for locals to earn money legitimately.

Adopting educational practices from neighboring countries/areas that are doing better academically. Also, taking steps towards protecting the rights of Children within the school system.

Increased opportunities for locals to provide services and earn income.



GOVERNMENT

lack of capacity, ineffective policy implementation and the absence of data that showed the number of children living on the streets of the Dominican Republic.

Integrate street children issues in policy decisions and allocate resources to implement policies that address the challenges associated with child abuse.